

Remarks

This timely filed Reply is responsive to the Final Office Action dated June 3, 2005 (hereinafter "Final Office Action").

Claims 28-44 and 48-67 were pending at the time of the Final Office Action. Claims 28, 30-44, and 48-67 were rejected. Claim 29 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 28, 30-45, 48, 50-54, and 59-61 (drawn to coated medicament) were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,223,244 to Moro et al. ("244"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,976,577 to Green et al. ("Green"). Claims 28, 30-45, 48-61, and 66-67 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,972,388 to Sakon et al., ("Sakon") in view of Green. Claims 28, 30-44, 48, 59-61, and 66-67 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,855,913 to Hanes et al., ("Hanes") in view of Green. Claims 62-65 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moro or Sakon or Hanes in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,277,364 to Bucks et al., ("Bucks").

As noted above, dependent claim 29 was indicated as being an allowable claim in the Final Office Action if rewritten in independent form. Although Applicant disagrees with the basis of the rejections in the Final Office Action, Applicant has amended claim 28 by moving the limitation of claim 29 into claim 28 in order to expedite allowance of the present case. Claim 29 has been cancelled. Claim 66 has been amended to exactly recite the allowable medicant recited in claim 28, as amended herein. No other claims are affected by this Amendment. No new matter has been added and no new search is required.

Applicants have made every effort to present claims which distinguish over the cited art, and it is believed that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. However, Applicants request the Examiner to call the undersigned (direct dial 561-671-3662) after review of this Reply if the Examiner determines that any clarification is necessary to permit issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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